

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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P R 090929Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 963
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USLO PEKING
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: SEOUL 3816 (DTG 080838Z MAY 78)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, KS
SUBJECT: FURTHER ON STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS OF MAY 8-9

SUMMARY: STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED AGAINST NCU ELECTIONS, YU-SIN SYSTEM, AND CAMPUS SURVEILLANCE IN LARGE NUMBERS AT TWO OF SEOUL'S MAJOR UNIVERSITIES MAY 8 AND 9, BUT ONLY TEN STUDENTS REPORTED HELD BY POLICE AS OF MAY 9. ROKG POLICY IS TO KEEP SCHOOLS OPEN. END SUMMARY.

1. ICA SOURCE MAY 9 SAID HE HAD HEARD FROM A MAN WHO WAS ON CAMPUS OF SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (SNU) MAY 8 THAT STUDENT DEMONSTRATION HAD LASTED SOME TWO HOURS. (OTHER SOURCES PUT NUMBER ACTIVELY INVOLVED AT 600, WITH AN ADDITIONAL 400 ONLOOKERS, AND ADD THAT THERE WAS SOME STONE-THROWING.) POLICE, WHO APPARENTLY HAD RELAXED AFTER DEMONSTRATIONS RUMORED FOR LAST WEEK FAILED TO OCCUR, WERE TERMED SURPRISED.
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STUDENTS REPORTEDLY SHOUTED SLOGANS OPPOSING A) NCU ELECTIONS, B) YUSIN CONSTITUTION, C) THEIR PROFESSORS, AND D) UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION (SEE PARA. 4). IN ADDITION, THEY CALLED FOR A ONE-WEEK STUDENT STRIKE, STARTING MAY 19 (DAY AFTER NCU ELECTIONS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD). (ICA SOURCE NOTED THAT TIMING OF STRIKE APPEARED DESIGNED TO AFFORD ROKG OPPORTUNITY TO

PERPETRATE SOME ATROCITY JUST BEFORE MAY 24-25 VISIT OF BRZEZINSKI.) ABOUT TEN STUDENTS WERE ARRESTED, INCLUDING ONE WHO WAS REPORTEDLY BADLY BEATEN UP, AFTER STUDENTS HAD BEATEN UP ONE IN THEIR MIDST IDENTIFIED AS A GOVERNMENT AGENT.

2. ICA SOURCE CONTINUED (AND OTHER SOURCES CONFIRM) THAT SOME GIRLS AT EHWA UNIVERSITY HAD DISTRIBUTED LEAFLETS MAY 8, AND THAT ABOUT NINE OF THEM HAD BEEN TAKEN IN BY POLICE FOR QUESTIONING.

3. OTHER PRESS SOURCES REPORT THAT EHWA PROTEST EXPANDED MAY 9, WHEN TEN A.M. CHAPEL HOUR TURNED INTO AN ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION. SOME 300 GIRLS REPORTEDLY DEMONSTRATED ON EHWA CAMPUS FOR ABOUT FOUR HOURS. THEIR SLOGANS CALLED FOR A) OPPOSITION TO THE NCU ELECTIONS ("AN ATTEMPT TO PERPETUATE THE ONE-MAN DICTATORSHIP"), B) ABOLITION OF YUSIN, AND C) AN END TO CAMPUS SURVEILLANCE. POLICE ARE SAID NOT TO HAVE PICKED UP ANY OF DEMONSTRATORS ON THE SPOT.

4. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPY OF A "DECLARATION FOR ACADEMIC DEMOCRACY" (HAKWON MINJU SONON), LEAFLET DISTRIBUTED BY SNU STUDENTS MAY 8. AFTER LENGTHY PRE-AMBLE, DRAFTERS SET FORTH FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS AND "GUIDELINES FOR ACTION":
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1) ABOLISH THE YUSIN CONSTITUTION AND RESTORE A DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION.

2) REPEAL THE EMERGENCY MEASURE AND RELEASE THE IMPRISONED PERSONAGES.

3) ABOLISH THE STUDENT DEFENSE CORPS AND REVIVE STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

4) (PRESIDENT) YUN CH'ON-CHU, RESIGN, AND RE-INSTATE THE PUNISHED STUDENTS.

5) GUARANTEE THE THREE LABOR RIGHTS AND DON'T SUPPRESS THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

6) MEDIA CIRCLES, REFLECT ON YOURSELVES, SO THAT A FREE PRESS MAY BE REALIZED.

7) DOWN WITH BOUGHT-OFF OPPOSITION PARTIES, THE BOUGHT-OFF FK TU, AND BOUGHT-OFF PROFESSORS.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTION:

1) TO OPPOSE THE NCU ELECTIONS, WE WILL CARRY OUT A STUDENT STRIKE, FOR ONE WEEK STARTING MAY 19.

2) WE WILL PARTICIPATE POSITIVELY IN COLLECTING MONEY FOR THE TONGIL WORKERS WHO HAVE BEEN FIRED.

3) WE WILL ACTIVATE THE CAMPUS PRESS, WHICH HAS BEEN SEALED UP, BY DRAFTING AND DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS, SPREADING CRITICAL SONGS, AND (WRITING) GRAFITTI HERE AND THERE ABOUT THE CAMPUS.

4) WE WILL MAKE ACTIVE USE OF ALL SORTS OF MEETINGS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE, TO ACTIVATE THE CAMPUS ATMOSPHERE.

5. A PROFESSOR WHO WAS PRESENT ON SNU CAMPUS MAY 8 CONFIRMED ABOVE OUTLINE OF EVENTS AT SNU, SAYING THAT DEMONSTRATION HAD LASTED ABOUT TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS, HAD STARTED AT LUNCH TIME WITH A CORE OF 500 ACTIVISTS AND 2,000 LOOKERS-ON NEAR STUDENT CAFETERIA, AND, AS RESULT OF EFFORTS OF SOME 100 PROFESSORS, CORE OF DEMONSTRATORS HAD DWINDLED TO SOME 100 BY TIME POLICE MOVED IN WITH PEPPER FOG. NOTING THAT STUDENTS HAD NOT OCCUPIED ANY BUILDINGS AND HAD RESPONDED RATHER READILY TO PROFESSORS' URGINGS TO GO HOME, PROFESSOR COMMENTED THAT STUDENTS WERE NOT AS FERVENT AS IN 1977. AT COLLEGE FACULTY MEETINGS MAY 9, PROFESSORS WERE TOLD OF FOLLOWING DIRECTIVES FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: A) SCHOOL MUST STAY OPEN, NO MATTER WHAT, B) GUIDANCE SYSTEM (WHEREBY EACH PROFESSOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ABOUT 20 STUDENTS) SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED, AND C) FACULTY SHOULD BE CAREFUL OF STUDENT STRIKE. ADMINISTRATION ALSO REPORTED TO FACULTY THAT ABOUT 20 SNU STUDENTS HAD BEEN PICKED UP BY POLICE, AND TEN WERE STILL BEING HELD MAY 9. PROFESSOR ADDED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO FOLLOW-UP DEMONSTRATION AT SNU TODAY AND THAT, AS SNU ENTERS TWO-WEEK MID-TERM EXAM PERIOD MAY 10, HE EXPECTS NO MORE TUDENT ACTIVITY UNTIL AFTER MAY 19, WHEN CLASSES RESUME.

6. PROFESSOR ALSO CONFIRMED REPORTS OF EHWA DEMONSTRATION MAY 9, SAYING HE HAD HEARD SOME 500 STUDENTS TOOK PART, AND WERE STILL DEOMONSTRATING AS OF 1300. ANOTHER SOURCE REPORTS AFTERNOON CLASSES AT EHWA WERE CANCELLED MAY 9.
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